

Message Text

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73

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 FEA-02 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-03 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01

SWF-02 IO-14 DRC-01 /188 W
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R 192030Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4385

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 5127

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GT

SUBJECT: MEAT MEETING IN MEXICO CITY SEPT 9

REF: MEXICO 7572, AND 7835

1. GUATEMALAN AND HONDURAN PARTICIPANTS IN MEXICAN/CENTRAL AMERICAN MEETING OF AGRICULTURE MINISTERS SEPT. 9 HAVE TOLD AGATT THEY WENT TO MEXICO CITY UNDER MISTAKEN IMPRESSION THAT MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF INFORMATIONAL AND MARKETING ORGANIZATION THAT WOULD FURNISH MEMBERS WITH STATISTICAL AND PRICE DATA AND MARKETING SUGGESTIONS FOR BEEF EXPORTS. THIS, THEY SAID, WAS IMPRESSION GAINED IN COURSE OF RECENT VISITS TO THEIR COUNTRIES BY MEXICAN VICE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE RETA.

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2. INSTEAD, UPON ARRIVAL, THEY WERE PRESENTED WITH ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENT APPARENTLY DRAFTED BY MEXICANS AND PATTERNED AFTER COMMODITY ARRANGEMENTS FIXING EXPORT PRICES AND ALLOTING QUOTAS.

3. INFORMANTS SAY COSTA RICA AND PANAMA SUPPORTED MEXICAN PROPOSAL, BUT HONDURAS, GUATEMALA, NICARAGUA, AND EL SALVADOR OPPOSED IT ON GROUNDS THEY DID NOT WANT ANOTHER QUOTE BANANA AGREEMENT UNQUOTE. MINISTER ZACHRISSON OF GUATEMALA SAID SALVADOREANS BROUGHT HIM A DRINK BECAUSE OF HIS OPPOSITION TO SYSTEM UNDER WHICH QUOTAS WERE TO BE ESTABLISHED ON BASIS OF EXPORT PERFORMANCE OVER PAST THREE YEARS(EL SALVADOR DID NOT BEGIN EXPORTING UNTIL MID-1972).

4. OPPOSITION GROUP DRAFTED STATEMENT ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF MEETING. MINISTERS AGREED TO CREATE ORGANIZATION OF BEEF EXPORTING COUNTRIES TO FACILITATE MARKETING, COORDINATE PRODUCTION POLICIES, STIMULATE CONSUMPTION, AND EXCHANGE TECHNICAL INFORMATION. PRIOR TO ORGANIZING, HOWEVER, OIRSA IS TO MAKE ANALYSIS OF PRODUCTION CONDITIONS IN EACH COUNTRY AND EXAMINE BEHAVIOR OF WORLD BEEF MARKET.
ANDREWS

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